



6AN 2622

PATENT  
81800.0154

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Masaki KOTANI

Serial No: 09/837,713

Filed: April 17, 2001

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Art Unit: 2622

Examiner: Not Assigned

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENTCommissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sirs:

1.  The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).

2.  The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(b), but *before* the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs first. A statement specified in §1.97(e) or a fee set forth in §1.17(p) is included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

**§1.97(e) STATEMENT**

I, the person signing below, state:

that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

**OR FEE**

Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c). (\$180.00). [OR:] Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c) (\$180.00) to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.

3.  The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(c), but before, or simultaneously with the payment of the issue fee. A statement specified in §1.97(e) and a fee set forth in §1.17(p) are included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).

**§1.97(e) STATEMENT**

I, the person signing below, state:

that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

**OR**

that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

**AND FEE**

Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(d). (\$180.00).

4.  If it should be determined that for any reason either an insufficient fee or an excessive has been paid, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment necessary to ensure consideration of the information disclosure statement for the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. **A copy of this petition is enclosed.**

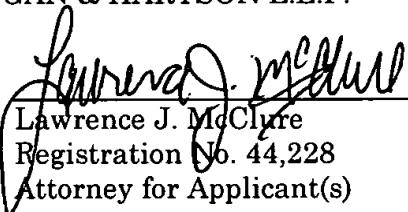
5.  A list of 4 reference(s) is in the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE REFERENCES

- Enclosed is a search report for a counterpart application. The search report Examiner has provided comments on the relevancy of any non-English language references cited in the search report.
- The specification incorporates comments on the relevancy of Non-English language references.
- Set forth below are comments provided by the applicant's home country counsel on the relevancy of non-English language references:

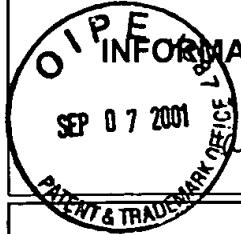
Respectfully submitted,  
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

By:

  
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Date: September 4, 2001

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

*(Use several sheets if necessary)*

**Applicant**

Masaki KOTANI

**Filing Date**

**Group Art Unit**

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

RECEIVED  
SEP 13 2001  
FBI - LOS ANGELES  
SEARCHED SERIALIZED INDEXED  
2001

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	0-949590	10/13/99	EPO			X	
	0-889637	01/07/99	EPO			X	
	86/03851	07/03/86	PCT			X	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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